



# The Mayo College MAIL

• Saturday, April 11, 2009 • Issue No. 10 •



**DAILY 2 PIECES: 3 UP-TO-DATE 4**  
**LESSONS OF LIFE ILLUSION**

## BAISAKHI-THE HARVEST FESTIVAL

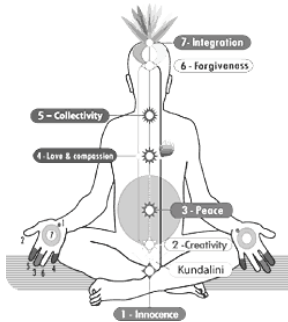
*Dr. Mohit M. Mathur of the Department of History writes on Baisakhi - the harvest festival which falls on the 13th of April this year.*

Several Indian festivals coincide with the harvest time and Baisakhi is one of them. Baisakhi is celebrated by the people of Punjab with vigor and joy. It is celebrated by different names and with different rituals almost all over India, when the Rabi crop is ready for harvesting. Baisakhi is also the day when the tenth Guru of the Sikhs, Guru Gobind Singh, founded the Khalsa-Panth over three hundred years ago. The Vaishakha period of April and May is filled with festivals of fun, frolic and merry-making and Baisakhi, derived from the word Vaishakh, falls in this auspicious period. Based on the Indian solar calendar, this festival falls on April 13 every year and on April 14 once every 36 years. A combined birthday for all the Sikhs, they celebrate this day by visiting Gurudwaras and distributing kada-prasad among all. Processions led by the Panj-Piaras or the five religious men are taken out. Children, dueling youths and musical bands are a must for these enthusiastic processions. Kir-tans and recital of passages from the Granth-Sahib are also organized in Gurudwaras, where people line up to receive the delicious kada-prasad and perform kar-sewa. Kar-sewa is offering physical labor to help in the daily chores of the Gurdwara and is a traditional symbol of humility for all Sikhs. Baisakhi has a special meaning for the Sikhs. On this day in 1699, their tenth Guru, Gobind Singh, organized the order of the Khalsa. He discontinued

the tradition of Gurus in Sikhism by declaring the Granth-Sahib to be the eternal Guru of all Sikhs. To form the Khalsa-Panth he asked his followers to volunteer to be ready to lay down their lives to save others. Five volunteers of five different castes were made the Panj-Piaras, who would lead the rest. On this day also, Guru Arjan Dev was martyred by the Muslim rulers. Again, on this day in 1875, Swami Dayanand Saraswati founded the Arya Samaj, a reformed sect of Hindus who are devoted to the Vedas for spiritual guidance and have discarded idol worship. Baisakhi day is observed as the Naba-Barsha (New Year) in Bengal. On April 14, the people take a ritual bath in the River Ganga or any other river or a nearby tank and decorate their houses with Rangoli drawn at the entrance of their homes with a paste made of rice powder. In Assam, this is the day for the Rongali-Bihu, which is a chance for the young people of the state to dress up in their traditional finery and dance the night away. There too, this is the harvest festival, which allows the farmers to relax and enjoy before they take up the task of harvesting their crop. In the South, Baisakhi is celebrated to mark the Tamil and Telugu New Year. In a ceremonial march, people take out wooden chariots in a procession. The temples in Kerala celebrate Poo-ram festivals usually in honor of Lord Vishnu.



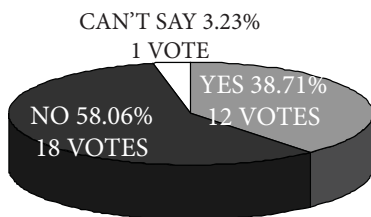
# SAHAJ YOGA MEDITATION



This week, Mayoites were enlightened to learn the art of meditation. The Yoga teacher, Mr. Virendra Sharma invited a group of teachers who taught us the art of Sahaj Yoga. It is said that this meditation opens your mind and brings in contact with the cosmic rays of the universe.

## OPINION POLL

Should more schools be invited for the Mayo College Fete ?



**Next week's poll - Is the Tick system being taken advantage of? (Submit your opinion on MAYOON-LINE)**

## THIS WEEK'S CALENDER

April 12 - Look At The Sky Day  
April 13 - Blame Somebody Else Day  
April 14 - National Poem Day  
April 15 - Eraser Day  
April 16 - National Eggs  
April 17 - National Day  
April 18 - International Jugglers Day

## MID-TERM EXPERIENCES

### Class-9 Jodhpur and B.T house

"The trip was thrilling and a lifetime experience. We enjoyed rafting in river Ganges and saw the river turn from a lazy river to a river with rapids. It was not only a holy and pilgrimage trip but also enjoyable"

- Tandej Sarkaria

### Class-9 Colvin, Kashmir, Bharatpur and Jaipur House

"We went to the land of lions. We not only saw the lions but also other animals like leopards, deer etc. Our tour turned to a pilgrimage trip as we visited The Somnath Temple. We had a blast at the water sports."

-Dharm, Prithviraj and Harsh

### Class-9 Ajmer and Rajasthan House

"We had a lifetime experience in visiting the Bharatpur bird sanctuary and the Ranthambore National Park. We not only saw the tigers in Ranthambore, but also many species of birds in Bharatpur, including some endangered ones. We also saw Taj Mahal and many other forts, which was a feast to the eyes."

-Shubham Sultania

### Class-10 Ajmer and Rajasthan House

"This was one of the most memorable trips of our life filled with adventures. We had great fun doing rapling, rock climbing and also the thrilling rafting. Not only trekking, we also had some golden memories in Haridwar along the banks of the river Ganga.

-Ayush Kedia

### Class-10 Jodhpur and B.T House

"We had a great time in the valleys of Shimla and Manali. We were thrilled to do Rapling and rock climbing. We did some sight seeing and saw some picturesque views. We also visited a church in Shimla and returned with the blessings of God."

-Deepraj and Ashwini

### Class-10 Colvin, Kashmir House

"It was more or less a life time experience full of hardships and adventure. The beautiful Dodital Lake made us feel that we were in the lap of nature. We did a 40 kms trek and a 20 kms water rafting which was enjoyable and also strengthened us."

-Sajal and Nibhant

### Class-10 Bharatpur and Jaipur House

"This year we went to the exquisite valley of Mussoorie. We also went to Dhanaulti, a dreamy, misty mountain retreat. We enjoyed rafting and also got a chance to visit the Forest Reaserch Institute and saw a different face of nature."

-Jatek Chhateja

2. The Mayo College Mail, Saturday, April 11



# LESSONS OF LIFE

The most destructive habit - *Worry*  
 The greatest Joy - *Giving*  
 The greatest loss - *Loss of self-respect*  
 The most satisfying work - *Helping others*  
 The ugliest personality trait - *Selfishness*  
 The most endangered species - *Dedicated leaders*  
 Our greatest natural resource - *Our youth*  
 The greatest 'shot in the arm' - *Encouragement*  
 The greatest problem to overcome - *Fear*  
 The most effective sleeping pill - *Peace of mind*  
 The most crippling failure disease - *Excuses*  
 The most powerful force in life - *Love*  
 The most dangerous pariah - *A gossip*  
 The world's most incredible computer - *The brain*  
 The worst thing to be without - *Hope*  
 The deadliest weapon - *The tongue*  
 The two most power-filled words - *'I can'*  
 The greatest asset - *Faith*  
 The most worthless emotion - *Self-pity*  
 The most beautiful attire - *Smile*  
 The most prized possession - *Integrity*  
 The best channel of communication - *Prayer*  
 The most contagious spirit - *Enthusiasm*  
 The most important thing in life - *GOD*

## IT TAKES YOU

It takes a special smile to brighten up my day,  
It takes a warm and tender touch to melt the hurt  
away.

It takes a willing hand to help in time of need,  
It takes a patient and caring heart indeed.

It takes a friendly hug to dry up all my tears,  
It takes a strong shoulder to quit all my fears.

It takes a gentle spirit to bring peace and tranquility,  
It even takes at times a very large dose of humility.

It takes someone that is faithful and true,  
Hope you know by now  
IT TAKES YOU.

# SMART INVESTING

VIPUL BHANDARI

A city boy, Kenny, moved to the country and bought a donkey from an old farmer for \$100.00. The farmer agreed to deliver the donkey the next day.

The next day the farmer drove up and said, "Sorry son, but I have some bad news, the donkey died last night."

Kenny replied: "Well then, just give me my money back."

The farmer said: "Can't do that. I went and spent it already."

Kenny said: "OK then, just unload the donkey."

The farmer asked: "What you gonna to do with him?"

Kenny: "I'm going to raffle him off." (Note: To raffle is to sell a thing by lottery - draw lot to a group of people each paying the same amount for a ticket)

Farmer: "You can't raffle off a dead donkey!"

Kenny: "Sure I can. Watch me. I just won't tell anybody he's dead."

A month later the farmer met up with Kenny and asked, "What happened with that dead donkey?"

Kenny: "I raffled him off. I sold 500 tickets at two dollars apiece and made a profit of \$998.00"

Farmer: "Didn't anyone complain?"

Kenny: "Just the guy who won. So I gave him back his two dollars!!"

## KILLING ENGLISH

*"Boys please open the light"*

*"Stand together separately"*

*"Please close the doors of the window, I've got winter in my nose"*

*"Give me a copper wire of any metal"*

*"Write orally"*

Did you also hear any such dialogues in the campus? If yes, then you can send them to the Mail at [editor@mayocollege.com](mailto:editor@mayocollege.com).

3. The Mayo College Mail, Saturday, April 11



## ILLUSION



Isn't the road in this illusion also looking like a tree? A cow gives nearly 200,000 glasses of milk in her life time.

## TONGUE TWISTER

*Speak this line repeatedly as fast as you can with correct pronunciation!*

Once a fellow met a fellow in a field of beans. Said a fellow to a fellow, "If a fellow asks a fellow, can a fellow tell a fellow what a fellow means?"

## Ripley's Believe It or Not!

"Ma is as selfless as I am" can be read the same backwards.

"Canada" is an Indian word meaning big village.

One kg (2.2 pounds) of lemons contain more sugar than 1kg of strawberries.

A honeybee travels an estimated 43000 miles to gather one pound of honey. A pound of honey consists of 29,184 drops.

A person will die from total lack of sleep sooner from starvation. Death will occur about 10 days without sleep, while starvation takes a week.

A woodpecker can peck 20 times a second.

All mammals, except man and monkey are colour blind.

Male mosquitoes are vegetarians. Only females bite (suck blood) as they need proteins to lay eggs.

Babies' eyes do not produce until the baby is approximately 6 to 8 weeks old.

"One Thousand" contains the letter "A", but none of the words from one to nine hundred ninety nine has an "A".

### LIBRARY BOOKS

- Between The Assassinations - Arvind Adiga
- In Other Rooms, Other Wonders - D. Muinuddin
- Law Of Attraction - Michael Losier
- The Cosmic Detective - Mani Bhaumik
- Happiness And Other Disorders - A. Saidullah
- A Bear Of Felicia - Jerry Pinto
- The Awakening Of Intelligence - J. Krishnamurti

### THIS WEEK

- A Time Of Transition - Mani Shankar Aiyar



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